

NOTES FROM THE FIELDS.

The EVANGELIST reached me a few hours ago. I always anxiously await its arrival, which, weekly makes its visit to my home. I love to read the good news that it is always laden with. The EVANGELIST has become very dear to me as it is the only preacher we have, and we feel very lonely in our isolated condition. I could not do without the paper.

Dear brethren and sisters, you who are blessed with the privilege of attending preaching of your choice, do not know what it is to be entirely deprived of the sacred privilege.

We have the promise of Bro. Swihart to come here and hold a series of meetings, but have not heard of him since. Bro. Swihart where are you? We, too, with Bro. Kistler, say amen to the article of sister Sidle, on, Wast of Money in foolish Ways. Especially that part of it where she speaks of ornamenting the body with gold and pearls which are strictly forbidden in the holy scriptures. See 1 Peter and 1 Tim. Dear brethren ministers do you not feel it your duty to more frequently preach it from the pulpit? It is a great sin that is getting a strong hold in the Brethren church and should be got rid of as soon as possible.

ROSA L. WHITMER.

McLouth, Kansas.

DEAR EVANGELIST:—I am glad the Christian spirit of our "synopsis" has been noticed by you and the reader's attention called to it. Nearly all the members of the Brethren church in this city received their religious training at the hands of our professedly conservative brethren. We regard them as our spiritual fathers and mothers, and would by no means despise them, nor despitely use them. We are sorry rather than angry that they did not one and all take their position upon the "gospel-alone" platform, and yet hope in the future they will take a position consistent with their practices. Whether so or not, we shall ever strive to maintain a feeling of Christian fellowship between us.

Bro. J. D. Bowman was with us and is gone. If any of the churches want a man to particularly expound the peculiar doctrines of our church they should send for him. He has no equal in particular line, on general topics he will improve yet, as he is very susceptible. I regard him as one of the coming men of the church.

Our "John Duke" is with us and is holding a series of meetings at present. I care not to speak about prospects, but will report results as soon as there are any to report.

JACOB CASSEL.

Phil'd., 1207 Columbia Av.

Gratis, Ohio.

Though we seldom see any news in your columns from Winchester, it is by no means asleep, but wide awake and has enjoyed a most refreshing season of meetings, held by Bro. J. H. Worst, assisted part of the time by our home minister, Bro. E. Mason. Surely our worthy Bro. W. made the "way of salvation" plain to all. Seven dear souls were gathered into the fold. May we never forget his good advice and beautiful words of encour-

agement. We feel assured that he made some lasting impressions among many outside the church.

Hope ere another year rolls round, he and his family will be with us again, when we expect to enjoy a church home of our own. Soon we will hear the musical ring of hammer and saw toward the erection of our new church. We anticipate its completion at an early date. Then the dedication. And here a word to Bro. Mallott, Why did you pass us by? Do you not know that Gratis has a claim on you, especially when you come so near?

Will close by asking an interest in the prayers of your many readers, that we may grow in grace, and ever live and work together in peace and harmony.

NANNIE ENGLAR.

Rockwell City, Kansas.

I closed my meeting at Homesville, Neb., on the 21 inst. The immediate result was an organization of twenty. On the next evening sister Barbara, wife of our Lewis S. Keim was anointed with oil in the name of the Lord. The hand of affliction has been resting upon sister Keim for some two years, but she bears her affliction with Christian fortitude. What a beautiful life the Christian's is, having the image of Jesus impressed upon it, heaven begins on earth, the church becomes a paradise, angels will sing around and hover over us, glad notes shall we raise to God and the Lamb forever.

On the evening of the 22, we held a communion meeting with brother and sister Keim in their house. The participants were L. S. Keim and wife, Grace and Emma Beechley, daughters of Dr. U. M. Beechly, of Myersdale, Pa., S. Irvin and wife, W. Irvin and wife, Nerr and wife and myself. This meeting was a glorious one in partaking of the holy communion our intercourse with God was intimate and confiding. Living at the foot of the cross, we could see the Father's face shining out of the death of Jesus.

On the next day, 23rd, I came to Beatrice, the County seat of Gage Co., Neb. This city claims to have about 7 thousand inhabitants. Brethren U. W. Miller, J. Barkley and G. Beechly and other brethren live in this city. On the 24th, I took the train and arrived at Norton, the county seat of Norton Co., Kansas, same night, a distance of about two hundred miles. The next morning I called on W. P. Shoemaker who is conducting a bank in this city. He is a son of brother John Shoemaker living in Armstrong Co., Pa. Mr. Shoemaker's wife is a daughter of Elder J. Kelso, formerly of Somerset Co., Pa. Mr. Shoemaker is not a member of our fraternity, but I think ought to be, and I think he feels so too. But his wife is a member of our church. I was made to feel at home with them, as much so as any place I have been since I left home. God bless them for their kindness.

Bro. C. Kimmel also lives in this town. Norton has about twelve hundred inhabitants, and is quite a business place.

On Saturday 26th I came to Eld. M. Lichty's, a distance of 12 miles north-west. I took dinner with Bro. and sister Lichty. This was the first meal I ever ate in a sod house. I need not

tell you I enjoyed it. I went with bro. and sister Lichty to a business meeting in their new meeting house at 2½ p. m. This house is a beautiful frame structure seated with chairs. In the evening I spoke at 8 p. m., not very many present, but quite attentive. Stayed all night with Bro. C. Strayer. Met next morning. I attended Sunday School. About 60 were present. Bro. T. C. Leslie is superintendent, and he is the right man in the right place. He was formerly of Napanee, Ind. Bro. M. Lichty is the minister in this church. However, I believe Eld. C. Forney is employed to preach for this church once a month for one year. God bless his labors a hundred fold. This is the place where the Maple Grove colony located some eight years ago, but quite a number have moved away.

This is a beautiful county and I am told that the land is quite productive. Land is not very high here. I am told that one hundred and sixty acres can be bought, for from fourteen hundred to two thousand dollars, owing to the improvements. Yesterday I spoke to a pretty full house, and also last night. I have meeting again tonight.

I will, the Lord willing, leave for home in a few days. The wind has been very cold for a few days past with some snow. This article was written in the house of Bro. S. R. Holsinger.

JNO. NICHOLSON.

March 28.

Make Full Proof of thy Ministry.

In No. 11, also 12, the articles on Rev., Elder, Pastor, etc., were not needed. Dear brethren and Ed., why not let such matters alone. If some are conscientiously hurt by these distinctions, let all exercise a little more charity. Let us go on to perfection and not stop to argue about distinctions. There is work before us of greater importance. For instance, how will we furnish ministers to churches that have none? How will we know how much the members of these churches are willing and ready to lay aside the first day of the week as the Lord hath prospered them, towards the support of a minister. 1 Cor. 16:2. How will our missionaries be supported? These are questions of scriptural importance and belong to the Master wheel, and unless we come to a more progressive mode in these directions, are we loyal to our creed, the Bible, the whole Bible and nothing but the Bible?

I do not offer this criticism to find fault with any member who is doing his or her duty in correcting error. But let us look to the weightier matters first, and get in a better working order; I have no doubt we are all conscientious in what we are doing; at least we should be. But it appears that there are some organized churches that might have a more progressive system. In other words, were organized without a proper understanding as regards the Church's duty towards the support of the ministry, and also the duty of the deacon and the official distinction between the two. I know whereof I affirm. Let us prove what that perfect and exceptional will of the Lord is.

S. B. REIST.

Aurelia, Iowa.

Things In General Some Things In Particular.

Valedictory.—Two years and six months ago, we commenced turning the sod in Washington Co., Md. During this time we have received into the home church 47 members. In the church at large 159 members, three Sunday schools have been organized, Funkstown and Mapleville are evergreens. St. James closed for the winter, but will open soon. One church building has been erected at a cost of \$1500, a balance of \$250 to be raised, which the building committee will attend to. A tract society has been organized which has scattered 500,000 pages of tracts and books, waves of influence have been started which will break only on the eternal shore. Some of the work done has been done with the hearty cooperation of the church, and some under many difficulties, we have not done all we wanted to do, but what we could, no sacrifice is regretted. May God bless the Brethren church of Washington Co. "Finally brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace, and the God of love and peace shall be with you."

Salutatory.—Providence guided me to Philadelphia. Could you read the history of my life, you would say so. Some time you may read that history. We—self and family—reached the city safe. Were met by Bro. Jacob Caseel and conducted to the parsonage, where we found a number of the members awaiting our arrival. We were soon at home. We found a new carpet on the floor, a ton of coal in the cellar, and other evidences of love and thoughtful care. One good assertion is worthy of consideration; a good brother said, as he was busy helping "we are comfortable ourselves and we want you to be also." If congregations generally would desire their pastor to be comfortable, they would be paid well in home and pulpit. It is the so-called little things that tell. We find here an active church, a good Sunday School, a live prayer meeting, and an intense desire on the part of the church to save souls. We are having a few sermons as a preparation for Easter. Bro. Roberts and Clymen assisted in getting our goods to the house. To mention all who have shown kindness, would be to mention the church. And now for a year of work, preaching, praying, etc. We will be glad to see our friends and acquaintances. Brethren pray for us: "Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ."

JOHN DUKE MCFADEN.

Phil'd., Pa., 2720 N. 8th st.

Alpena, Dakota.

I have lived in Dakota three years and when I think back and read of our Shepherd's going so many places and preaching the Gospel, and we can not hear them we ask will our Father not send some brother to Alpena, to preach to the dear ones who are so anxious to hear you?

Not very long ago I heard a lady say, why don't you send for one of your ministers. I think that church is right. Now brethren don't we read in the Bible, "Go ye into the world and preach the gospel to every creature." There are only three of us living here. We often re-

ceive letters from those German Baptists who try very hard to slander the Progressives. Very often they send special word to us—but God forgive them for they do not know they are only having us to love our Heavenly Father and cling closer to him. One writes, if it were not for a certain brother getting up something sensational, the church would die out. O Lord help us that we may be stronger in our faith. Love Jesus, walk humbly before God.

I read in our paper that Bro. Bashor intended making Dakota a visit. God bless the dear Bro. Come, come, good Shepherd, feed thy sheep. Just come and give us something sensational and we will gladly receive it.

SADIE MILLER.

Middlefork, Ind.

March 28.—We will give a few words from this part of the Lord's vineyard.

On the time of our last regular meeting, Sunday the 13 inst., Bro. Swihart did not come, and we tried as best we could to fill his appointments, and baptized 4 on that day, who had made application when Bro. Mallott was here.

Yesterday we met at 10 a. m., for the purpose of organizing our S. S., after which we tried to preach from the words, "Be ye Steadfast."

B. L. GORDON.

From Roann, Ind.

We have been helping brother J. W. Fitzgerald to hold a revival meeting in Roann nearly two weeks. To present date 14 have come out on the Lord's side, and 2 prodigals have made application to be restored. The interest is good and brother J. W. will continue the meeting awhile yet, and I will go to another field.

The news from the recent Akron meeting is encouraging, although there were no accessions to the church during the meeting. But it was a new field for the Brethren. Bro. Heeter resides there now, and I hope he may soon gather some precious souls into the fold at Akron.

J. H. SWIHART.

March 31, 1887.

From Fair Haven, O.

The Fair Haven Brethren are now ready for another summer's work in their Sunday School, with M. B. Painter supt., and B. F. Swinehart ass't., Samuel Thorley sec., sister Della Martin chorister and sister Clara Miller ass't., Lida Painter and Addie McFadden Librarians.

Sister Mary Moul has been visiting at Fair Haven, but has now left for North Manchester, Ind., the brethren at North Manchester will find in her a worthy sister.

Brother P. J. Brown is expected to come home on April 2nd.

Wm. Kiefer has left his farm and is now living at Pleasant Home, Ohio, one and a half miles north of the Fair Haven church.

WM. KIEFER.

Certificates of Baptism.

We now have printed, on fine cards in two colors a form of a Certificate of Baptism. Every person who is baptized desires to preserve the date and the certificate of the administrator. They are printed so as to be useful to ministers of the Brethren Church only. Sent post paid to any address at 20 cents per dozen, or \$1.50 per hundred.

BRETHREN PUB. HOUSE, Ashland, Ohio.

A child of God may fall very low, but he can never fall below the promises.